



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Good mental health is essential to our well-being, especially for the youngest among us whose healthy development is so vital to a successful future. These illnesses strike Texans from all walks of life, regardless of age, race, gender, religion or socioeconomic status. And many children experiencing mental illness have also experienced various forms of trauma.

Fortunately, an increased understanding of mental illness has brought new hope. New insights into the causes, treatments and possible prevention of mental illness are changing the outlook for these disorders. Early diagnosis, access to cognitive behavioral therapy and family involvement are essential to helping individuals with mental illness. Ensuring timely access to effective treatment is beneficial not only for individual well-being, but also for our society as a whole, resulting in countless cost savings in the health care, criminal justice, housing and family services fields.

Recovery does not happen in isolation. It requires a significant number of licensed health care providers, including psychologists, therapists, counselors, social workers and psychiatrists, all of whom use their training and clinical skills to diagnose and treat patients. And in the aftermath of such a traumatic event as Hurricane Harvey, I applaud the Hurricane Harvey Task Force on School Mental Health Supports for its efforts to help Texas students who have been affected by this disaster.

At this time, I encourage my fellow Texans to learn more about mental health and to take steps to protect their and their children's health and well-being. Together, we can ensure a brighter future for all Texans.

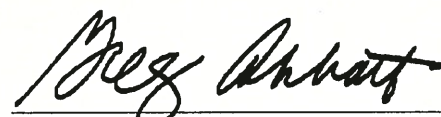
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 10, 2018, to be

## **Children's Mental Health Awareness Day**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 2018.

  
Governor of Texas